

DLAMP COMPLETION CEREMONY – Wednesday, December 15, 2004

Sixty participants who completed the Defense Leadership and Management Program (DLAMP) were honored today at a ceremony in Arlington, Virginia, hosted by the Honorable Charles S. Abell, Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness.

The Honorable David S. C. Chu, Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, presented the keynote address. Noting that transforming the way we conduct our business is a matter of national security, Dr. Chu challenged DLAMP participants to be change agents, working to advance what Secretary Rumsfeld has called a culture of “innovation and intelligent risk taking.” He praised the honorees for the commitment each has made to excellence in public service, and specifically to serving and leading within the Department of Defense.

Mr. Abell and Ms. Ellen Tunstall, Acting Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Civilian Personnel Policy, presented Certificates of Completion to the honorees. In addition, an Honorary Certificate of Completion was presented to the family of Mr. David W. Laychak, a DLAMP participant who was killed in the September 11, 2001 attack on the Pentagon.

Implementing recommendations of the Commission on Roles and Missions of the Armed Forces (CORM), the Defense Leadership and Management Program was established in 1997, to develop highly capable senior civilian executives with a Department of Defense-wide perspective; substantive knowledge of the national security mission; a shared understanding, trust, and sense of mission with military leaders; and strong leadership and management skills.

Refocused in 2001 in line with DoD human resources strategic goals, DLAMP is a key component of the Department’s succession management strategy, preparing a cadre of leaders to fill critical positions now and into the future. This marks the first completion ceremony under the refocused program.

Participants at grades GS-13 through GS-15 (and equivalent) are selected competitively through an annual Component nomination process. Generally, all program requirements can be completed in two to five years, depending upon the individual’s prior education, training and experience. DLAMP requirements include a Master’s degree from an accredited institution; graduate courses in business management and public policy areas, based on an individual needs assessment; foundation courses in national security studies and leadership; and Professional Military Education (senior level).

Today there are over 1,100 DLAMP participants throughout the Department of Defense. The next completion ceremony is projected for July 2005. An additional 350 participants will be admitted to the DLAMP Class of 2005 early next year.